**Contaminated underground water in Rajasthan**

*80. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that due to contaminated underground water fluorosis has engulfed eight major districts of Rajasthan causing serious dental and skeletal abnormalities; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (*b*) Yes, Sir. District-wise number of villages having high fluoride in ground water in Rajasthan as per observations of the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). The excess fluoride in drinking water causes water borne diseases including skeletal and/or dental fluorosis.

Provision of safe drinking water is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The Central Ground Water Board provides technical services to the State Governments in this endeavour. The CGWB has taken periodic monitoring of water quality. The data thus collected is made available to concerned State agencies.

***Statement***

*District-wise number of villages in Rajasthan having high fluoride in Ground Water*

| Sl.No. | District | Number of Villages |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Nagaur | 771 |
| 2. | Jaipur | 737 |
| 3. | Banswara | 605 |
| 4. | Bhilwara | 530 |
| 5. | Barmer | 466 |
| 6. | Tonk | 445 |
| 7. | Dausa | 398 |
| 8. | Ajmer | 384 |
| 9. | Alwar | 344 |
| 10. | Karauli | 321 |
| 11. | Jodhpur | 320 |
| 12. | Jaisalmer | 301 |
| 13. | Sirohi | 252 |
| 14. | Jhunjhunu | 252 |
| 15. | Jalore | 235 |
| 16. | Udaipur | 224 |

| Sl No. | District | Number of Villages |
|---|---|---|
| 17. | Bharatpur | 203 |
| 18. | Dungarpur | 176 |
| 19. | Sikar | 175 |
| 20. | Pali | 172 |
| 21. | Churu | 166 |
| 22. | Barmer | 148 |
| 23. | Sri Ganganagar | 147 |
| 24. | Dholpur | 143 |
| 25. | Rajsamand | 134 |
| 26. | Chittorgarh | 115 |
| 27. | Bundi | 107 |
| 28. | Jhalawar | 100 |
| 29. | Bikaner | 85 |
| 30. | Kota | 20 |

**Vegetable and Fruit Godowns at Sahar International Airport, Mumbai**

466. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to erect terminals for vegetable and fruits godowns at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Sahar, Andheri, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details of facilities Government are going to give in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Construction of the Centre for Perishable Cargo is in progress at the International Airport at Mumbai to provide State-of-the-art Storage and Processing facilities for handling perishable consignments consisting of fruits, vegetables, horticulture and floriculture, and is likely to be completed by August, 2002. Facilities like exclusive parking, exclusive truck dock area, five X-Ray machines, four embedded weighing scales, close circuit television, specially designed trollies, computerised/automated system and uninterrupted maintenance of cold chain are being provided at the proposed centre for perishable cargo at Mumbai.

**Flights from Bangalore to Switzerland**

467. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a big market potential for operating international flights from Bangalore to Switzerland;